

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A surface effects skimmer vehicle generates a downward air flow into a tunnel under a main hull to lift the main hull off an adjacent surface, and rearward air flows for thrust. The air flows are generated by ducted fans or jet engines, and directed to the rear and/or down by controlling the degree of opening of a Deflector Air Gate (DAG) on the bottom of the main hull. The tunnel includes tunnel edges to contain the downward air flow under the main hull for surface lubrication. The vehicle further includes a rear portion with horizontal and vertical stabilizers to provide air-craft like behavior.